Activity: Construction rock Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Enquiry standards:

1.2 Make predictions directly related to a research question

1.8 Identify, and make critical use of, secondary information

3.4 Use an appropriate range of methods to communicate scientific information

**Supporting information:**

Some rock is important for building. Slate (6), marble (12) and schist (4) are used in this way, but each of these rock types has properties which lend themselves to different applications.

Please refer to the photographs on the reverse of this page which show why schist is a suitable building stone. **Hint:** think about the ***cost*** of using this rock rather than other types of construction material (e.g. brick, timber).

**Research question:** What properties of selected metamorphic rocks determine their suitability in construction?

You may use the *Eyewitness* text *‘Rock & mineral’* to locate further information.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Application** | **Properties of the rock** which make it suitable for this application | **Other factors** which influence the choice of this rock type for the application described |
| Schist |  |  |  |
| Slate |  |  |  |
| Marble |  |  |  |



Schist is very abundant in some places. These mountains are made entirely of schist. The rocky outcrop is also schist.

 

Detail of wall built from schist.

This building is constructed from schist.